

12. Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a class of  $\mathcal{L}$  structures. Show that the ultraproduct of ultraproducts of members of  $\mathcal{K}$  is isomorphic to an ultraproduct of members of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $K'$  be an ultraproduct of ultraproducts of members of  $\mathcal{K}$ . That is, for infinite index sets  $I, \{J_i\}_{i \in I}$  and ultrafilters  $V, \{U_i\}_{i \in I}$ ,

$$K' = \Pi_{i \in I} [(\Pi_{j \in J_i} K_{i,j}) / U_i] / V$$

We define a new index set  $M = \bigsqcup_{i \in I} J_i$ , the disjoint union over the  $J_i$ 's. We also define an ultrafilter  $W$  on  $M$ . For subset  $P \subseteq M$ , we say  $P \in W$  if and only if  $\{i \in I \mid (P \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \in V$ . That is, if the set indices where  $P$  is large is large, then  $P \in W$ .

We show this is a filter. Suppose we have  $P \in W$  and  $P \subseteq R$ . Then we know that  $\{i \in I \mid (P \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \in V$  and  $\{i \in I \mid (P \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \subseteq \{i \in I \mid (R \cap J_i) \in U_i\}$ . Then since  $V$  is itself a filter, we have  $\{i \in I \mid (R \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \in V$  and  $R \in W$ . Now suppose that  $P, R \in W$ . Then we have  $\{i \in I \mid (P \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \in V$  and  $\{i \in I \mid (R \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \in V$ . Since  $V$  is a filter,  $\{i \in I \mid (P \cap R \cap J_i) \in U_i\} = \{i \in I \mid (P \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \cap \{i \in I \mid (R \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \in V$  and we have  $P \cap R \in W$ .

Now we need to show that  $W$  is an ultrafilter. Let  $P \subseteq M$  and consider  $P_* = \{i \in I \mid (P \cap J_i) \in U_i\}$ . Because  $V$  is an ultrafilter, either  $P_*$  or  $P_*^c$  is in  $V$ . If  $P_* \in V$ , we have  $P \in W$  and are done. Otherwise,  $P_*^c$  will be in  $V$  because  $P_*^c = \{i \in I \mid (P \cap J_i) \notin U_i\} = \{i \in I \mid (P^c \cap J_i) \in U_i\} \in V$ , where the second inequality comes from the fact that each  $U_i$  is an ultrafilter.

Now we want to show that our new ultraproduct

$$(\Pi_{m \in M} K_m) / W$$

is isomorphic to the ultraproduct  $K'$ . We do so by comparing the kernels of two quotient maps.  $q_1 : \Pi_{m \in M} K_m \rightarrow (\Pi_{m \in M} K_m) / W$  and  $q_2 : \Pi_{i \in I} [(\Pi_{j \in J_i} K_{i,j}) \rightarrow K'$ . Notice that  $q_1(a) = q_1(b)$  if and only if  $\{m \in M \mid a_m = b_m\} \in W$ . To reiterate, that happens if and only if  $\{i \in I \mid \{j \in J_i \mid a_j = b_j\} \in U_i\} \in V$ . These are also the same elements that  $q_2(a) = q_2(b)$ . Hence, the two quotient maps have the same kernel. Since the quotient of a quotient is a quotient, we have that the two target structures are isomorphic.  $\square$